(c) The Navy is not treated as a "Cindrella service" and its genuine requirements are met.

Procurement of aerotyres by IAF

4194. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Air Force is experiencing difficulty in procuring aerotyres for its planes, especially after closing down of Dunlop Units; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) After closure of Dunlop India factory at Kolkata, indigenous aerotyres are not available and all aircraft tyres are being imported. There is no problem in importing these tyres except for MIG-21 and MIG-25 fleets which are not operated in Russia any more. These tyres are not readily available in Russia. Alternate sources are being found.

Modernisation of defence forces

4195. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that acquisition and assimilation of military capabilities requires time ranging from five to ten years, if so, is our modernisation of defence forces attuned to that time-frame and are Defence budgetary allocations sufficient in view of belligerent neighbours on our borders; and

(b) if so, whether target fixed for modernisation during the last three years were met and what is the perspective planning for the coming decade?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The 15 year Long Term Perspective Plans and the Five Year and Annual Plans of the Defence Services are formulated on the understanding that acquisition and assimilation of military capabilities require a long restation period. Budgetary allocations are made keeping in mind these requirements and availability of resources.

(b) Allocation of budgetary resources (Budget Estimates) for the Defence Forces (Army, Navy and Air Force) for modernization during